

ICE CREAM

In what country was ice cream first made? Who was the first manufacturer here? Please give the history. **B. D.**

Early history of ice cream is fragmentary and the name of the actual originator is not known. It is recorded that Alexander the Great, the Ptolemys and Julius Caesar preferred "iced drinks," made with wine and snow, resembling our water ices. The writings of Marco Polo mention certain frozen sweets he enjoyed in China in 1275. Italian records indicate a thriving ice cream trade there in the 15th century and Catherine de Medici, when she moved from Florence to France, took her own "gelateria" or freezing plant with her. The first printed record of it in England appeared in 1769.

Legends differ on its introduction into America, but credit most generally is given to the Virginia Cavaliers. In 1777 what is probably the first advertisement for ice cream appeared in a New York paper. During the Administration of James Madison, his wife, Dolly, served it frequently at her levees. In 1832 a Negro confectioner of this city, Augustus Jackson, offered ice cream for sale at a dollar a quart. Several accounts claim that this man and the chef at the White House during the Madison Administration are the same.